Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W. Washington, D. C. 20554

This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC. 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

Fax-On-Demand 202 / 418-2830 TTY 202/418-2555 Internet: http://www.fcc.gov ftp.fcc.gov

News media Information 202 / 418-0500

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 7, 2012

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT Neil Grace, (202) 418-0506 neil.grace@fcc.gov

## FCC CHAIRMAN JULIUS GENACHOWSKI ANNOUNCES PUBLIC-PRIVATE INITIATIVE TO HELP DRIVE FCC BROADBAND AGENDA

Appoints Josh Gottheimer as Director, Jordan Usdan as Deputy Director

Washington, D.C. – FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski today announced a new Public-Private Initiative to drive collaboration among government and private sector entities, including non-profit organizations, on broadband-related national priorities. This initiative will advance key broadband goals, including those outlined in the National Broadband Plan, such as broadband adoption, digital literacy, technology and education, cybersecurity, public safety, job creation, and broadband and healthcare. Chairman Genachowski appointed his Senior Counselor, Josh Gottheimer, to lead the initiative for the Commission. While Mr. Gottheimer's primary focus will be on leading this Initiative, he will continue to serve as the Chairman's Senior Counselor.

Chairman Genachowski said, "For nearly two years, Josh Gottheimer has helped focus private and public sector actors on delivering innovative solutions to connect every American with high-speed Internet, drive job creation, and empower consumers. This entrepreneurial approach has delivered major advances in areas such as technology and education, broadband adoption, cybersecurity, and public safety."

In addition, the Chairman announced that Jordan Usdan will serve as Deputy Director of the Public-Private Initiative. Mr. Usdan will continue to help coordinate the Commission's public and private partnership efforts on broadband adoption, digital textbooks, cybersecurity, online safety, and broadband performance issues. He joined the Commission in 2009 from Howrey LLP, in Washington, DC, where he practiced after receiving his law degree from Georgetown. Previously at the Commission, Mr. Usdan served as an Advisor in the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau and as a Program Manager for the National Broadband Taskforce, where he focused on implementation, broadband adoption, international policies, and consumer transparency. He also led the development of the FCC's fixed and mobile broadband speed tests and the Open Internet Apps Challenge.

The initiative builds on the success of the Commission's efforts to encourage public-private initiatives to advance the country's broadband goals, including Connect to Compete, a broadband adoption program with national digital literacy and low-cost broadband offerings; the Digital Textbooks Initiative, between the Department of Education, the education technology industry, and nonprofit organizations; the FCC's cybersecurity small business initiative, between government experts and private IT and security companies; Jobs4America, an initiative that has committed to bringing more than 100,000 new and repatriated call center jobs to the U.S. by 2013; and a joint effort with mobile carriers on a new nationwide public safety emergency alerting system.